



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



February 28, 2008

SB 414 An Act Concerning the State-Funded Home Care Program for the Disabled and Personal Care Assistance Program for the Disabled

Good morning Sen. Harris, Rep. Villano and members of the Human Services Committee.

My name is Mary-Ann Langton. I am live in West Hartford. I am a Disability Policy Specialist for the CT Council on Development Disabilities. I am dependent upon personal assistants to work, for transportation, to live in the community and to be a productive contributing citizen.

The CT Council on Developmental Disabilities encourages your support for SB 414 An Act Concerning The State-Funded Home Care Program for the Disabled and Personal Care Assistance Program for the Disabled.

Personal assistants enable people with disabilities to have to meaningful and productive lives. Personal assistants assist people with disabilities with their personal needs, including but not limited to: bathing, eating, grooming, meal preparation and taking medication. People with disabilities can hire, manage and, if need be, terminate their personal assistants. This bill will enable 20 more people between the ages of 18 and 64 to access personal assistants under the state funded pilot program and up to 100 people with disabilities to access personal assistants under the Personal Care Assistance Medicaid Waiver. This is 120 more people who will avoid or leave institutions.

Thank you.